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THE LANCASTER NEWS

WEATHER
Rain Tuesday;
rain and colder
Wednesday.

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LANCASTER, S. C. TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1915.

\$1.50 A YEAR.

SHRIEKING SHELLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE

Following Bombardment People of Arras Held Usual Festivities.

SPIRIT IN THE TRENCHES.

Soldiers Observed the Holiday Season in Various Ways With Songs and Plays in Evidence.

Arras, on the French Front, Dec. 26.—Hundreds of big shells tore the air over Arras all Friday afternoon. The echoes of these were the last compliments of the season and they had no sooner died away than the life of Arras began to show itself through re-opened cellar doors and windows in preparation for usual Christmas eve festivities.

The people of the Artois region rise above their afflictions due to the war and the spirit of Arras survives among the heaps of ruins.

"It would be really a shame if we hadn't gotten used to it during all these months," said a woman selling postal cards and stationery by a candle light on the first floor of a building three parts open to the sky. "What we've got to do," the woman continued, "is to hold out for final victory and lasting peace."

After the usual systematic shelling died down, rifle shots and the occasional rattle of machine guns were all that broke the stillness of death that settled over the city. The cathedral, where midnight mass was said last year under the thunder of cannon stood out against the twilight in ragged ruins like a spectacle with crumbling walls of demolished buildings all around giving the aspect of a gigantic cemetery with decaying headstones.

The rattle of machine guns struck up again and a few rifle shots rang through the clear air. Toward 8 o'clock the soft strains of an organ were heard from an invisible source. Going through heaps of stone and glass to a chapel entrance, one could see a candle light flickering through the darkness a short distance away. Staff officers, waiting for dinner, led the correspondent of the Associated Press to an adjoining room, which resembled the crater of a miniature extinct volcano.

"If it continues much longer, you are likely to have your dining room also opened to the weather," said the correspondent to the officers.

"That is quite possible," replied the captain, "but the destination of a shell is something over which we have not found any control yet."

Santa Claus and the Christmas spirit, notwithstanding the war, were in evidence everywhere along the Artois battle front where the correspondent passed Christmas eve. They were in the trenches and sheltered with the simple soldiers; in the temporary barracks where the traditional Christmas eve theater was replaced by an improvised concert and vaudeville that almost rivaled the best Paris could do in time of peace; in the quarters where the officers celebrated with no less simplicity and dignity.

In the first little church still defying shell fire that one finds behind the battle front midnight mass was celebrated. From the road running almost parallel to the trenches rockets shooting up into the air from both lines recalled the Fourth of July fireworks in America. An officer explained that this was partly due to habit.

"The fuses are set off every night," the officer explained, "even when the moon shines brightly as tonight, and besides the Germans may, as last year, have an idea that we are going at them before morning."

The fuses multiplied at the approach of midnight and on the stroke of 12 the line as far as the horizon was illuminated as by a long line of brilliant stars. Flashes of different colors could be seen far away to the north, although no reports were heard.

"They are firing away up there around Souchez," a lieutenant said.

Several miles up the ditch with 12 inches of chalky mud at its bottom, just far enough from the German line to permit tranquil sleeps, soldiers entertained each other with simple folk-songs of their home regions and examined parcels from home and talked of victory. One soldier

NINETY-MILE GALE STRIKES NEW YORK

Seven Deaths Reported as Toll of One of Most Weird Storms Ever Experienced.

New York, Dec. 26.—One of the most weird storms the East has seen in many years—rain, hail and snow accompanied by thunder and lightning and gale which reached a maximum velocity of ninety miles an hour descended from the northwest early today as the aftermath of a Christmas fog. It indirectly caused seven deaths in this vicinity, carried down telegraph wires, damaged shipping, crippled railroad traffic, and caused considerable property damage.

The phenomenon of thunder and lightning in the midst of a driving snow awakened New Yorkers at the height of the storm about 7 o'clock this morning. A gale from the south accompanied by rain had been blowing during the night, but the temperature dropped during the early morning hours, changing the rain to hail and then to snow. The local weather bureau reported a total precipitation of 5.2 inches, of which 2.8 was snow.

The wind shifted to the northwest and increased in violence, reaching its ninety-mile intensity at 9 o'clock, and soon after carrying off the storm clouds. The gale continued, however, hurling signs and copings to the streets and demolished several partially built structures. The storm had its center in Massachusetts, the weather bureau reported, and the telegraph companies said their service in New England had been badly crippled, although communication had not been entirely lost with the principal cities.

No Changes in Greek Cabinet.

London, Dec. 27.—It has virtually been decided that the Skouloudis cabinet will remain in power for the present, Premier Skouloudis having deferred to King Constantine's desire to make no change at least before the chamber reassembles on January 24. This information was given to The Times correspondent at Athens by the premier, who also said that should events render it advisable the chamber would be convoked before that date.

He read a little note from home which said:

"This year it is I who play father. This year I broke open my savings bank and am sending presents to papa at the front." The soldier didn't explain who the writer was but his thick, coarse beard failed to hide a touching smile with which he accepted the reversal of Christmas roles.

"They're singing over there," said a soldier. "They've got an orchestra and they're shouting to beat all, but it doesn't sound very gay." Meanwhile impromptu concerts in the trenches went on in tones that were light, gay and confident. The same phrase was heard in all the toasts given here. It was "peace through victory."

A little farther from the trenches in a bombed barn covered by an improvised roof, the midnight watch was preceded by a concert in which the soldiers who joked the military on the stage in peace times, reversed the order of things and with the greatest zest caricatured the civilian behind the zone occupied by the armies.

All along the roads in this region two lines passed in different directions. Some with pick, shovel and rifle were going to take their turn in the trenches; while others were going back to the old village church to swell the congregation. Officers, including generals, colonels, captains and lieutenants, with a sprinkling of civilians and many women were in attendance.

As in the quarters of the soldiers near the trenches, everything in the attitude of the service brought out the same note:

"Peace through victory." A chaplain with the red ribbon of the Legion of Honor on his surplice, who had lost several brothers and has four more in the army, all of whom have been commended in orders of the day and he himself twice cited for heroic conduct, preached on "peace through victory."

A stretcher bearer with a military medal and a grenadier with a war cross on his breast sang a Christmas anthem, to the accompaniment of the modest old organ played by a simple soldier with such a master hand that the strains were quite as inspiring as the best music.

LANSING DEFINES PAN-AMERICANISM

"Expression of the Idea of Internationalism," He Tells Pan-American Congress.

VICE PRESIDENT SPEAKS.

Men of Science From the Americas Gather in Washington For 12-Day Conference.

Washington, Dec. 27.—Pan-Americanism, characterized by Secretary Lansing in his address of welcome as the "expression of the idea of internationalism," was the central thought in the speeches today at the opening of the second Pan-American Scientific Congress.

Men and women from all the republics of the two Americas attended the session in Continental Memorial Hall of the Daughters of the American Revolution. There were more than a thousand of them, including official delegates, guests of the Carnegie endowment and many others prominent in science and other fields of investigation. To-morrow they will begin the serious work of the Congress in sub-sectional meetings, to continue for twelve days. Fifteen other societies meeting here during the same period will hold frequent joint sessions with sections of the Scientific Congress.

Vice President Marshall welcomed the visitors after John Barrett, director general of the Pan-American Union, had introduced Eduardo Suarez Mujica, ambassador of Chile, the president of the Congress. Secretary Lansing spoke in the name of the Government which had invited the scientists to meet here, and Ambassador Suarez in response emphasized the better understanding created between the two Governments of Latin-America and the United States.

WILSON'S SUBSTITUTE.

Mr. Marshall took the place of President Wilson, away on his wedding trip. "And I shall not apologize for the President's absence," he said after his explanation. "In the presence of love science is silent. I am quite sure I address no man who has loved, who does love or who hopes to love who does not wish for the President years of unclouded happiness." After welcoming the guests in the name of the nation the Vice President said a word about preparedness to defend the rights of the Americas.

"I am one of those men who believe in preparation for war," he said. "Not that I want war, because the dream and prayer of my life is that we shall keep out of war, but I know myself I am not willing to have some ruffian interfere with what I believe to be my rights." He added that the idea of Pan-Americanism would not permit of exploitation, and that which touched the nations to the south to their injury touched also the United States.

SUBMARINE TAKES LIVES OF 80.

French Steamer Ville de la Clotat Torpedoed in Mediterranean.

Paris, Dec. 27.—The French steamer Ville de la Clotat, with passengers on board was torpedoed without warning and sunk in the Mediterranean by a submarine on December 24, the ministry of marine announced today. Eighty of the passengers and crew of the Ville de la Clotat lost their lives. The remainder of the persons on board were saved.

The statement follows:

"The steamer Ville de la Clotat was torpedoed and sunk on the 24th in the Mediterranean by an enemy submarine without warning. A majority of the passengers and crew were picked up by an English steamer. Details have not been received."

The Ville de la Clotat was returning from the Far East and was due to arrive at Marseilles today. The survivors were taken to Malta, arriving there yesterday morning.

Seven States Go Dry Saturday.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The people of South Carolina, Colorado, Iowa, Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Arkansas today bought liquor at high speed, preparing for the dryness which sets in on January 1, when each of the above states become dry. With Virginia, which becomes dry the first day of next November, there will be nineteen dry states.

MRS. BOSSEVAIN QUILTS THE FORD PEACE PARTY

Methods of the Expedition Are Repugnant to Her Principles.

ISSUES LONG STATEMENT.

Instead of All Members Formulating Plans, Work Has Been Confined to a Few Selected Persons.

Stockholms, via London, Dec. 26. Mrs. Inez Milholland Boissevain of New York, who withdrew from the Ford peace expedition Saturday, presented at a public meeting of the delegates today a long statement of her reasons for doing so and for believing the project was doomed to failure.

"The undemocratic method employed by the managers of the expedition is repugnant to my principles," she said. "Instead of all the members formulating plans, the work has been confined to a few specially selected persons. When the party embarked on the Oscar II, I took it for granted that the rather vague opinion of the body of delegates would be hammered into effective shape by group action and constructive thinking throughout the voyage."

"An organization was not formed until three days before the end of the voyage. To that fact I trace all misunderstandings, dissensions, mistakes in policy, inefficiency and inability to get the idea of a mediation peace congress in comprehensive shape before the public."

"The organization, when finally formed was abortive. The Scandinavian public which expected clear thinking and a definite program were skeptical about the serious-mindedness of the delegates. At the meetings the discussions have been purely private, with the result of ill-feeling, suspicions and condemnation. For the reasons stated I am unable to continue with the party."

Since the departure of the expedition from New York three weeks ago no meetings have been held at which peace plans were discussed. Discussions have taken place about the dinner tables and between meals the delegates went sightseeing. Mr. Ford's leaving the party on account of sickness last week is regarded as a serious handicap.

The Rev. Charles F. Aked of San Francisco, Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver, and others believe the expedition should proceed to The Hague to carry out the original plan as far as possible. This will result in the formation of a permanent committee of persons from neutral countries to sit at The Hague to adopt ways and means.

Each of the seven members of the peace expedition whom Mr. Ford left in executive charge after his departure expressed confidence today that the project would mark an important move toward European peace. All agreed, however, that the plan had seemingly insuperable obstacles.

Members of the committee believe that while peace is hardly possible before spring, yet the presence of the expedition traveling through neutral countries will convince the belligerents of the ardent desire of all neutrals for peace. The Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, chairman of the executive committee, said:

"There has been more talk of peace since our arrival here than ever before, and the more peace talk there is the greater is the desire for peace. We know we are undertaking a seemingly impossible task, yet we believe in the possibility of our voice being heard."

"Never was the time more opportune for peace lovers to unite for humanity," said the Rev. Dr. Aked. "We have pacifists of America, Norway and Sweden with us already and we will have others from Denmark and Holland as soon as we reach those countries and Switzerland and Spain will send delegates to join us at The Hague."

Similar views were expressed by Mrs. Joseph Fels, Judge Lindsey, Benjamin W. Huedsch, Frederick Holt, Mrs. William B. Lloyd and others.

It was said that Mr. Ford and William J. Bryan would both appear at the peace meeting to be held at The Hague. Mrs. Fels said:

"When we begin our sessions at The Hague 10 days hence, the world will see more behind the peace

LONG WINTER NIGHTS OFFER READING TIME

Farmers Can Utilize Season for Planning Their Work and Storing Up Knowledge.

Clemson College, Dec. 26.—During the bad weather of winter, when it is almost impossible to work out of doors, and when there is little work to be done in the fields in comparison with other seasons, farmers have an opportunity to give some of their time to two things that many of them neglect almost entirely. One of these things is to plan carefully for the next season, the other is to absorb knowledge from the printed matter that is now to be had in such abundance.

Most business men would shortly be bankrupt if they planned their affairs as little as the average farmer does. It is reasonable to believe that forehandedness and prudence will be as profitable in farming as in merchandising or banking. Certain it is that the farmer will lose nothing by giving some of his spare time this winter to looking ahead.

For example, if he has not been carrying out a crop rotation, now is a good time for him to decide upon one that is well suited to his conditions and to work out the details of it. He should be looking into the fertilizer situation to see what his purchases should be and where he can make them. He should be preparing to save all the trash on his place, as well as the wood ashes, for humus and for potash. He should be interesting himself in the question of home-mixing fertilizers. There are numerous other things that might profitably occupy the average South Carolina farmer's attention at this time.

There is almost no subject on agriculture on which he cannot get free literature either from Clemson College or from the United States department of agriculture at Washington. For example, bulletins that may be secured from Clemson College on some of the subjects mentioned above are as follows:

Farmer's Reading Course Bulletin No. 17, Buying and Using Fertilizers. Circular No. 10, Home-Mixing of Fertilizers.

Experiment Station Bulletin No. 182, Potash.

For the first two, address the Extension Division; for the other, write to the Experiment Station.

TROOPS REPULSE MOB.

Several Hundred Men Try to Force Prison to Lynch Two Negroes.

Muskogee, Okla., Dec. 26.—Although twice repulsed by state troops, a mob of several hundred men remained in the vicinity of the county jail here late tonight, apparently preparing to make further attempts to gain entrance to the prison and lynch two negroes, William Green and Mathis Foreman, who, it is charged, shot and killed Samuel Neal, a policeman, early today.

Officers who arrested the negroes aboard a train near Muskogee declare they admitted killing the officer when he attempted to arrest them as suspects in connection with a recent burglary.

Bryan Defers European Trip Because of Ford's Return.

New York, Dec. 27.—Reports that William Jennings Bryan had contemplated joining Henry Ford in Europe were confirmed today; but because Mr. Ford himself is returning to this country Mr. Bryan will not go to Europe.

It was learned here that he had booked passage for himself and Mrs. Bryan on the steamer Rotterdam sailing tomorrow. But today he telegraphed that because of Mr. Ford's return he (Bryan) had indefinitely postponed his trip.

British Steamship Sunk.

London, Dec. 27.—The 4,500-ton British steamship Yeddo, from Calcutta November 24 for Boston and New York, has been sunk. Her crew was saved.

movement than is generally known. We confidently expect that not only neutrals will demand peace but that the belligerents will show a disposition to listen."

Andrew J. Bethea, Lieutenant Governor of South Carolina, will leave the expedition tomorrow on account of personal business. Mrs. Boissevain plans to start for Holland at the same time.

JAPANESE LINER WAS GIVEN NO WARNING

No Intimation Was Given Boat That She Was Going to be Fired Upon.

NO EFFORT TO ESCAPE.

Presumed German or Austrian Submarine Sent Vessel Down—May Determine Japan's Course.

Washington, Dec. 27.—American Consul Bristol at Port Said cabled today that no warning was given the Japanese liner Yasaka Maru before she was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean last Tuesday by a submarine of unestablished nationality. The liner, he added, made no attempt to escape.

The consul's dispatch, which came in response to Secretary Lansing's call for reports on the disaster, was the first official information on the incident which probably will be the subject of further diplomatic correspondence with the Teutonic powers.

Today's report said the submarine was not seen until after the liner had been torpedoed and that then, only her periscope was visible. The ship sank in 49 minutes and the survivors—129 passengers including an American, W. J. Leigh, and the 162 members of the crew—were picked up by a French cruiser and landed at Port Said from where the first reports of the sinking came last week.

The general assumption is that the submarine must have been German or Austrian. Renewed efforts will be made to determine its nationality and instructions to that effect probably will be sent out today by the state department.

If the department can gather no information on which to proceed, the United States is prepared to include the incident in its diplomatic representations against the sinking of non-combatant ships without warning.

The outcome of the Yasaka Maru case is generally regarded by officials and diplomats here as surrounded with wide possibilities regarding Japan's future course in the war. It has been suggested that she might answer the challenge to her shipping by a wide participation in the war even to the extent of taking part in the operations in Europe.

As Germany already has given assurance that her submarine commanders were under instruction not to attack liners without warning, there was a disposition to believe the attacking boat was an Austrian. If that assumption proves true, it is feared that the situation over the sinking of the Ancona will be further complicated and the diplomatic correspondence with Austria will be broadened to take in the subject of attack without warning as it did in the last stages of the negotiations with Germany.

Unofficial reports of a favorable reply by the Vienna foreign office to the last Ancona note have not served to alter the attitude of the state department in the Ancona case and there are direct indications that nothing but meeting the demands of the United States fully will leave diplomatic relations between the countries unimpaired.

The word that the reply "will be guided by concern for the good relations" between the two countries, officials take it, means that Austria-Hungary probably expects more diplomatic correspondence upon the subject. The United States is disinclined to enter into any such negotiations.

Bigger Salaries as New Year's Gift.

Chicago, Dec. 27.—Salary increases aggregating \$600,000 for the year 1916 will be a New Year's gift of the Pullman Company to certain of its employees.

Five hundred thousand dollars of it will go to conductors and porters and the remainder to various agents. They number 9,000 out of 27,000 employees. Workers in manufacturing and repairing plants are not included.

General Huerta Seriously Ill.

El Paso, Dec. 27.—General Huerta is seriously ill and was removed today from the prison at Fort Bliss to the residence of his wife.

The nature of his illness is not stated. Recently it was reported he had recovered from a nervous illness.